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c)

or a combination thereof,

wherein the groups X, Y and R independently of one another are H or

branched or unbranched alkyl having 1 - 18 C atoms; and

optionally an antioxidant.

REMARKS

This application pertains to a novel method for the treatment of immunosuppression of the skin cells induced by UVB radiation, and for the protection of the cells which participate in the immune response of the skin.

The claims now pending are claims 8 and 11 - 17; claims 9 and 10 being cancelled by this amendment, and claims 15 - 17 added.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for use of the expression "and/or". This has now been corrected, and this rejection should accordingly now be withdrawn.

Claims 8, 10 - 11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Degwert '482; and the same claims are separately rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over said same reference.

Applicants note with appreciation, however, that claims 9 and 12 are objected to only, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations

of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In a determined effort to advance the prosecution of this case, Applicants have added the limitations of claim 9 to claim 8, thereby making claim 8 an independent form of claim 9, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In like manner, Applicants have added the limitation of claim 12 to claim 8, and have rewritten the combination as new claim 15. New claim 15 is claim 12, in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

All of the remaining claims depend from or incorporate the limitations of either claim 8 (i.e., independent form of claim 9) or claim 15 (independent form of claim 12).

It is therefore believed that the foregoing 102(e) and 103(a) rejections are now obviated, and that claims 8 and 11 - 17 are now in condition for allowance.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefor. Please charge the required petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS. P.A.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 12, 1999.

NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

Date ///2/